

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

By this Amendment, claim 14 is amended to more fully distinguish the invention of claim 14 over the teachings of the prior art reference cited against this claim. Claim 18 has been amended to change its dependency from claim 13 to claim 14.

No new matter is added by this Amendment. Support for the language added to claim 14 is found in the original specification, claims and Figures. In particular, support for the language added to claim 14 is found at, for example, Figures 2-4.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Nguyen in the June 2, 2004 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 1-13 and 18 are allowed.

Applicants further note with appreciation that claims 15-17 and 19-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,587,730 (hereinafter Karz). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Patent Office references Figures 2 and 3 of Karz and alleges that Karz discloses every element of the nonbuttable printhead of claim 14. However, nowhere does Karz teach or suggest at least one printbar having a plurality of multicolor die modules. Instead, Karz is directed to a thermal inkjet printer having redundant printing capability including a primary printhead for printing ink drops of a first color and a secondary printhead for printing ink

drops of the first color and/or other colors. In other words, the secondary printhead could be reconfigured from printing black ink to printing ink of the color of another full width printhead.

Although Karz teaches a secondary printhead that can be reconfigured to print a separate or a second color, nowhere does Karz teach or suggest a printbar with a plurality of multicolor die modules, as recited in claim 14.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that Karz fails to anticipate claim 14, or claims dependent therefrom. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are thus respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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